



## Report on the ESA-CNES MSR Conference, July 9-10, 2008

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Sept. 18, 2008





## What did iMARS present?

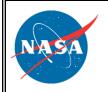


# Mission rationale, Science objectives, Samples needed to achieve objectives David Beaty









### Why Return Samples?

There are three primary reasons why MSR would be of such high value to science.

1. Complex sample preparation,

sample decisions



Image courtesy Dimitri Papanastassiou

Image courtesy Carl Allen



### Why Return Samples?

#### 2. Analysis Adaptability

Not limited by prior hypotheses



#### 3. Instrumentation

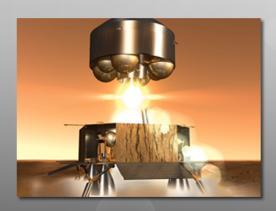
- Best accuracy/precision
- Diversity—results could be confirmed by alternate methods
- Instruments not limited by mass, power, V, T, reliability, etc.
- Calibration, positive and negative control standards
- Future instrument developments



JSC TEM lab, courtesy Lisa Fletcher



#### Draft High-Level Requirements, Architecture, Development Timeline Denis Moura









## Draft High-Level Requirements (1)

Category	Draft Requirement
Sample types to meet science objectives	MSR would have the capability to collect samples of rock, granular materials (regolith, dust) and atmospheric gas
Sample mass	MSR would return a minimum of 500 g of sample mass
Sampling redundancy including contingency samples at landing site	MSR would have both a rover-based sampling system and a lander-based sampling system
Sample encapsulation	MSR would have the capability to encapsulate each sample in an airtight container to retain volatile components of solid samples with the associated solid samples and protect samples from commingling
Cache retrieval	If Mars Science Laboratory (MSL) ends its mission in an accessible location with a cached sample on board, MSR should be designed to have the capability to recover the cache(s)

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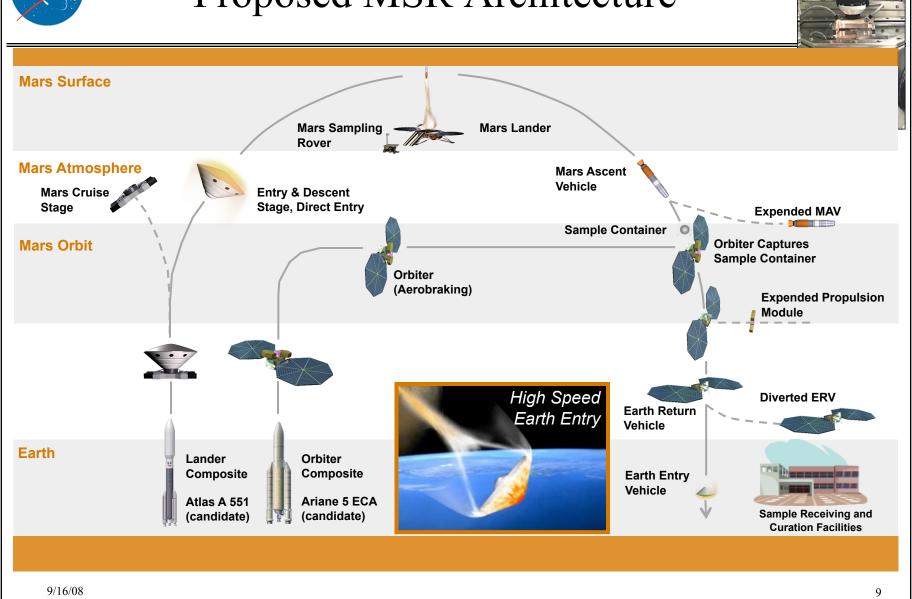


## Draft High-Level Requirements (2)

Category	Requirement	
Horizontal mobility to acquire diverse samples needed to meet science objectives	In order to sample various geological sites, MSR would have the ability to rove to the edge of its landing error ellipse ("go-to" capability), carry out a 2.5 km sample acquisition traverse, then return to the lander	
Landing site latitude range	MSR would be able to access landing sites within +/- 30 deg latitude	
Planetary protection	All MSR flight and ground elements would meet the planetary protection requirements established by COSPAR; an MSR mission is classified as category V, restricted Earth return	
International cooperation	MSR mission planning would enable international cooperation	
Timing	The launch of Lander Composite would be no later than 2020	



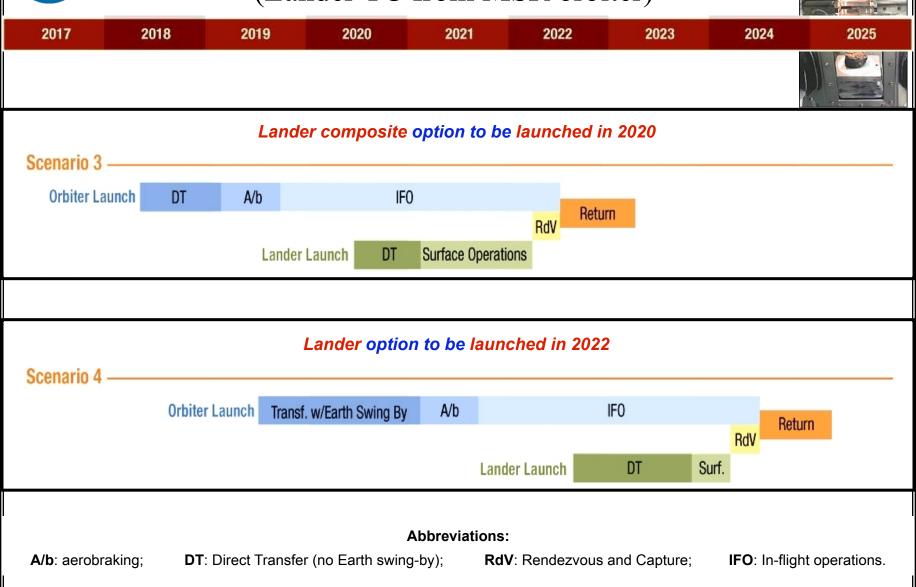
#### Proposed MSR Architecture





## Analysis of MSR Mission Options (Lander TC from MSR orbiter)

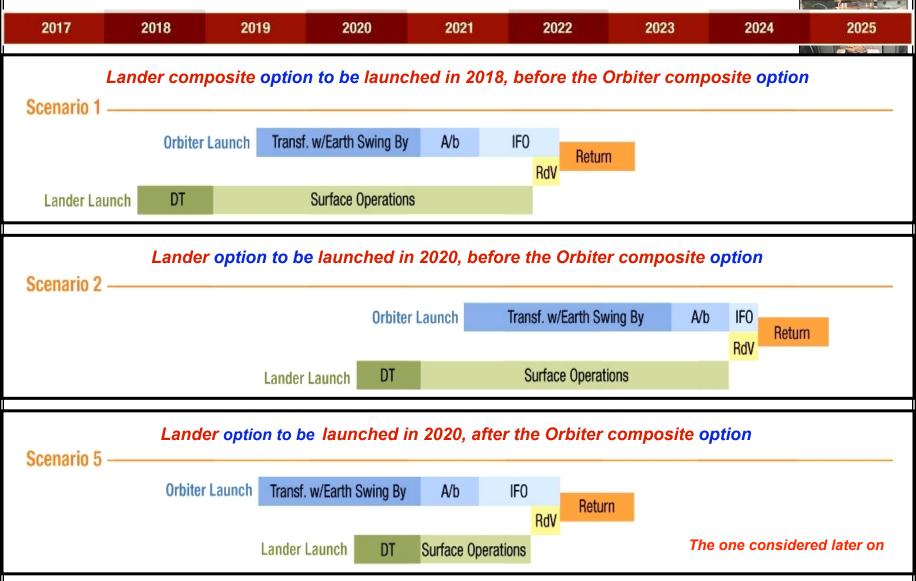






## Analysis of MSR Mission Options (Lander TC from another mission)

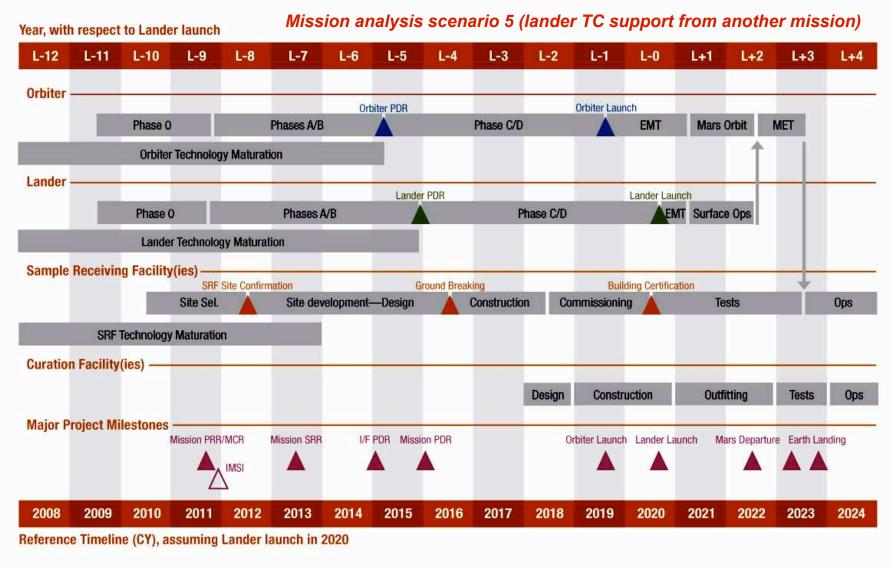






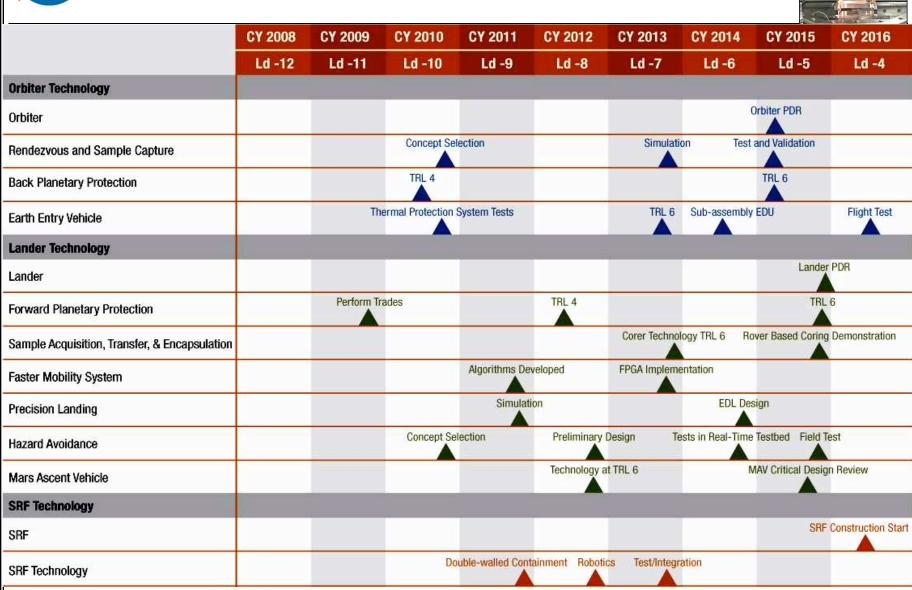
#### MSR Potential Timeline







#### Associated Technology Maturation Plan



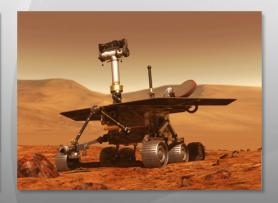


#### Protecting the Earth, Mars and the Samples

#### Gerhard Kminek









#### Planetary Protection Summary

- Protecting the Earth from potential martian hazards and protecting the martian samples from terrestrial contamination throughout all mission phases would introduce considerable complexity in the mission design for MSR
- The sample receiving facility(ies) is a long-lead item that would need to be addressed in the pre-project phase
  - full development, approval and commissioning covers one decade
- Ground facilities (i.e., containment and curation) would of necessity be long-term investments, beyond the return of the samples
- Communication with the public of particular importance with respect to the sample containment facility(ies)



#### Science Management Plan

#### Monica Grady









#### Internationalizing MSR Science

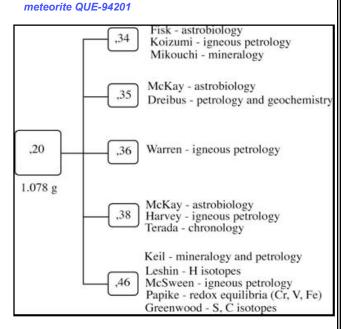
- A significant challenge for an international MSR would be the process by which a large, diverse, international science team would be managed
- How would international participation in the following critical science-related decisions be managed?

  – where to <u>land</u>,

- which samples to collect,
- Mars surface operations strategy, and its relationship to risk management
- subdivision of the samples once back on Earth
- <u>allocation</u> of the samples to PIs
- Would require an international 'oversight body' that includes
  - international and technical diversity

  - budget decision-makers scientists, engineers, strategic planners, and managers
  - Proposal for <u>International MSR Science Institute (IMSI)</u>

**EXAMPLE:** Sub-division and allocations for part of Mars







## What was the reaction?



#### Reaction

MEPAG ND-SAG findings, including science objectives, sample size/mass/diversity, sample preservation	REASONABLE
Draft requirements	REASONABLE
Flight architecture	REASONABLE
Technology maturation plan	REASONABLE
Timeline	MSR lander in 2020 too fast? 2022?



#### Reaction



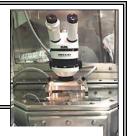




## What has happened since July, 2008?



#### What's Next?



- IMEWG is considering a charter for <u>iMARS Phase II</u>; early indications are favorable. Would start after the new year. This would continue to provide a vehicle for <u>coordinating international MSR planning</u>.
- ESA is preparing their submission for the Ministerial Conference in November (2008) and they currently planning to propose a 3-year MSR Preparatory Programme.
- In the NASA budgeting process, consideration is being given to increasing funding for MSR Advanced Technology. Timing and amount is TBD. Next budget release ~Feb. 2009.
- Other space agencies are evaluating their priorities and financial/technical options for participation in MSR.